

WASHINGTON CITY.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1859.

EUROPEAN POLITICS—THE SINEWS OF WAR.

The money kings of Europe, the industrial and commercial classes, and one or two of the most powerful governments of the European confederacy, having set their faces against war, and threatened those rulers who seemed anxious to disturb the public peace with the punishment due to the violation of treaty obligations, and the subversion of law and authority, it would now seem that the effort to find a satisfactory solution of the difficulty honorable to all parties concerned is nearly certain to be successful; and that the Emperor Napoleon, having tried his strength, convulsed the courts and money markets of Europe, startled the people from the repose of peace, and given his needy courtiers an opportunity—of which, by all accounts, they have liberally availed themselves—to fill their empty pockets at the stock exchange, is content to forego the enjoyment he promised himself in "liberating Italy."

The fact is, however, that although France is quite willing to bully Austria, and Austria is by no means reluctant to defend herself and her supremacy in Italy against the nephew of the Corsican bandit, and although Victor Emanuel of Sardinia is eager for an opportunity of distinction and the extension of his little kingdom, if France and Russia will support him, none of the three can afford to sustain the expense of war. War now-a-days cannot be carried on without abundant supplies, and France, Austria, and Sardinia, of all the nations in Europe, are the least in a position to obtain these supplies. Austria is in the market now for a loan to enable her to meet the ordinary expenses of her government. Sardinia was obliged to borrow from England the money necessary to move her contingent to the Crimea, and cannot now sustain her army without a resort to loans or insupportable taxation of her subjects. France is loaded with debt, and can never make both ends meet. The commercial and industrial classes need repose; they have much borrowed capital employed in railroads and other great works, and they know that at the first blast of the heralds of war all these enterprises must be abandoned, and therefore become almost worthless.

Thus the necessary expense of civilized warfare becomes the most effectual check upon the ambition of aggressive rulers. As civilization advances, war becomes more expensive. In ancient times, all fighting men were required to be fully equipped with their bows and arrows; but in this age of Minnie rifles, Lancaster guns, Colt's revolvers, and other costly material of destruction, the equipment of an army is a very expensive luxury, which the industrial classes—the men who pay—are strongly disinclined to afford their sovereign, unless the sacrifice is required for the defence of their hearths and liberties, when every patriot is ready to risk his life and fortune on the issue of the fight, and when surrender and disgrace become synonymous.

Whether Austria displays too much interest in Serbian politics, or whether the Italian people are down-trodden and abused by a despot who sits in Vienna or in Paris, is not a subject calculated to inspire those who really bear the burdens of war with that spirit of self-sacrifice and patriotic devotion which they feel when their country and their honor are assailed. The idea of a "united Italy"—a people unanimously determined to conquer their supremacy, and, trusting in their own strength and patriotism, win the freedom which they profess to prize so much—is admitted to be a chimera. The Neapolitan cannot be persuaded to consider the Piedmontese as an Italian, and the Roman cannot be induced to acknowledge that the Lombard is entitled to equal citizenship with himself. There is no concord of opinion as to what government should be adopted were the Austrians driven out, the Pope dethroned, and the two Sicilies delivered from the blighting rule of the Bourbons. There is a party in favor of proclaiming Victor Emmanuel King of Italy; there is another party irreconcilably opposed to any such course, and strenuously in favor of an Italian republic; and there is another party, a very formidable party—who think that each province is entitled to declare for itself and be governed as it chooses, without regard to Italian unity.

A war to regulate these differences, overturn existing governments, and wipe out valid treaties, may well startle moneyed men, and cause them, while locking their strong boxes, to exclaim, "Such a war will not pay. We may help to enable nations to fulfil their honorable engagements, but we have no money for Italian and Serbian campaigns, which can only lead to bankruptcy and destruction."

If, then, Louis Napoleon or Francis Joseph be never so desirous to draw the sword, so long as those who hold the purse-strings refuse to find the funds, the explosive tendencies of these imperial gladiators will be effectually restrained. England says, "the peace must be preserved." Prussia re-echoes this cry, and adds, "Austria shall not be dismembered." Under these circumstances, will Napoleon dare to oppose the voice of Europe and the tendencies of the age?

It is believed by a large class of intelligent Europeans that the movement of Napoleon in Italy was intended to divert public attention from other and more substantial interests which can be attained only through an alliance with Alexander, and that, in reality, the Russian and French rulers are arranging a descent upon Turkey, with a view to an early administration upon the affairs of "the sick man's estate." At this distance, we regard the chances of a union of Napoleon and Alexander, with the purpose of dividing Turkey, as far greater than the active co-operation of Great Britain and France to effect political ends in any part of the world. Those who have been familiar with Russian and French policy in the East will find abundant inducements for a descent upon Turkey; and, in the face of the powerful naval forces of Napoleon, it is by no means clear that the British government would do more in opposition to such a work than they did in opposition to the absorption of Poland. England will never again engage in a war that shall hazard her commercial, manufacturing, and moneyed interests, unless driven into it by imperious necessity. This, we ought to be well understood in Paris and St. Petersburg, and hence Napoleon has nothing to fear from England in a union with Alexander for the purpose of distributing the assets of the Sultan.

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THE ADMISSION OF OREGON—THE REPRESENTATIVE RATIO.

It is with some surprise we hear of opposition to the admission of Oregon from democratic members. The reason given, as we understand it, is, that the principles of the English Bill, requiring a representative population, should be applied to the case of Oregon. This is clearly wrong, and the argument is in a nutshell.

Heretofore this rule has never been applied to any Territory; but, at the last session, when both Oregon and Kansas applied for admission without such population, the point was made. In the Kansas bill it was provided that, if Kansas accepted the proposition of Congress, she should be admitted, without regard to the question of population. Why? Because, in that event, she should not be required to go through the preliminary steps of organization preparatory to admission. But if she rejected the propositions of Congress, she should wait until she had acquired the due population. Why? Because then she would be in the condition of all other territories which had not already formed their constitutions, and would properly come under the new rule which it was thus proposed to adopt for the future admission of new States. In the case of Oregon, there was no necessity for further action on the part of her people, and hence her admission without reference to population was but the application to her of the same rule which had been laid down for Kansas.

Let us test it. If Kansas had accepted the proposition of Congress and come in as a State, without the representative population, would it not have been the greatest wrong to have now rejected Oregon? No one would have thought of voting against the admission of Congress for that reason if Kansas had thus acted.

To reject Oregon now, because Kansas refused to accept the proposition of Congress, is to make her admission dependent not upon the action of her own people, nor upon the judgment of Congress, but upon the act and vote of the people of Kansas. This is so manifestly unjust that we feel sure no democrat will carry it out who gives the subject mature reflection.

Let us present one other view. If Oregon is now refused admission for this reason, she will be the only Territory that ever has, or ever will be, so refused without notice. In the case of Florida and other Territories which have been admitted without a representative population, no such rule has been enforced. In the case of Kansas, Nebraska, and all others hereafter applying, notice is given to their people in advance not to apply until they have a representative population. Not so, however, with Oregon. Her constitution had been formed; her people had gone through with all the formalities, expense, and trouble of preparing for admission as a State, and a new rule is to be put upon her without notice. The injustice is so apparent that we feel confident our appeal to the democracy in Congress will not be unheard when we ask them not to make a step-child of Oregon.

A DIFFICULTY.—It must be apparent to every one that there is a morbid disposition in the community to have before them some deadly strife between individuals, to misrepresent the conduct of public men, and to get up and keep up an excitement about something. The recent "hostile correspondence" between Mr. Sikes and Mr. Butterworth is a specimen quite in point. The gentlemen referred to are about the only persons in the country, we infer, who are ignorant of the existence of any misunderstanding. There is a disposition on the part of newspaper correspondents to get up sensation items; and as they are not only indulged by the press, but their statements not infrequently made the basis of editorial comments, we have a right to infer that the "great newspapers" have a department of their journals devoted exclusively to such "items." The Union establishment is reorganized about once a week in this way; and in the course of the year pretty much every prominent man in the country is brought into "deadly conflict" with somebody.

CONNECTICUT DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

The Democratic State Convention which met at Middletown, Connecticut, on Wednesday last, was distinguished for zeal and harmony. "Each town," says the *New Haven Register*, "had sent up its reliable men; and among them many of the 'old line,' who seem to have acquired new animation from the occasion and the importance of the pending struggle. From first to last, the convention was moved as by a common impulse, and in its proceedings, as in its conclusions, there was not a dissenting voice."

Hon. W. W. Eaton, of Hartford, was elected president of the convention, and the ticket of last year was unanimously re-nominated, with the exception of Mr. Winslow for lieutenant governor in place of Hon. J. C. Smith, who is now minister to Bolivia; viz: James T. Pratt, of Rocky Hill, for governor; Richard H. Winslow, of Westport, for lieutenant governor; E. Williams, of Stonington, for secretary of State; Daniel B. Warner, of Hadam, for treasurer; and Peleg C. Child, of Woodstock, for comptroller.

Among the resolutions passed, which are mainly in tone and unmistakable in sentiment, are the following: Resolved, That we have the highest confidence in the ability, integrity, and patriotism of the present Chief Executive of our nation; and that his efforts in promoting the peace and prosperity of the country—in obtaining from Great Britain the relinquishment of the claim which she has heretofore maintained of searching American vessels upon the high seas—in protecting the rights of American citizens upon foreign soil, and in executing the laws against the African slave trade, merit the sanction and approval of all national and patriotic men.

Resolved, That we adhere to the long-established policy of the democratic party in regard to the collection of revenue for the support of the government; and in accordance with that policy declare that it is the duty of Congress to so regulate the existing tariff as to furnish an amount of money sufficient, with its other receipts, to defray the necessary expenses of the government, and to provide a sinking fund for the gradual extinction of the public debt, and at the same time, by proper discrimination, afford equal encouragement to all the great industrial pursuits of the nation.

Resolved, That the possession by this government of the island of Cuba is necessary for the proper defence and protection of our great and rapidly increasing commercial interests; that its acquisition would not only greatly benefit the manufacturing business of Connecticut, and enhance the agricultural, mechanical, and commercial interests of the whole country, but would put an end to the importation of slaves from Africa, who now find their market on her shores; and that humanity and interest therefore impose upon the general government the duty of obtaining possession of Cuba whenever it can be done consistently with national honor and justice.

OFFICIAL.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT.

By and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

William Nolan, surveyor of the customs at Paducah, Kentucky, reappointed.

William Shearer, surveyor of the customs at Lake Fort, Louisiana, reappointed.

William M. Harrison, collector of the customs at Richmond, Virginia, reappointed.

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NEWS FROM ARIZONA.

GILA CITY, January 1, 1859.

DEAR SIR: Since my last, we have heard from a party of miners that were prospecting in the Pine Mountains, above the Pinos. They were guided by a friendly Apache, who had been held captive by the tribe ranging there. The gold was more plentiful than any yet found. Rich diggings are also reported on the Colorado, thirteen miles from here, and miners are hastening there to secure claims. The news is not surprising, although there is but little doubt of gold being found near a salt lagoon, near the mountains opposite here, (12 miles). There is no average pay with the miners here. Some are realizing from \$5 to \$1000 per day; others are clearing expenses, and many are doing nothing. Part of the machinery for the water-wheels have come; and now that all doubt is removed on this head, we have all a guarantee of doing well.

A young Italian was accidentally killed last Monday by a German while exhibiting his skill with a revolver. No punishment was inflicted upon the culprit. The mercantile monopoly at Fort Yuma has received a strong competitor. A party of men have been made to the commander of the post for the privilege of building on the reserve, but all have been refused. A petition was sent to Secretary Floyd to have this reserve removed, and open the banks of the river to settlement. As the reserve is situated, it inflicts a serious injury upon the citizens there, and sustains a monopoly of all trade on the river. But, despite these advantages, mercantile houses have been established outside the reserve, and a general reduction of prices has ensued. An English company are negotiating for the copper mine near this place, known as the Arizona copper mine. Specimens have been sent out to any found on Lake Superior. The Mexicans are still arriving in a destitute condition. They are permitted to work in some of the diggings and excluded from others. Peons are selling for \$200. The female peons, or Mexican slaves, are anxious to secure American masters, but, thus far, few have been successful.

Several families have arrived from California, and report large numbers on the road. The confidence of the miners is increasing hourly by the news that is being received by every mail from above. The overland mail passes here regularly, and drops its official batches of news. We have begun to receive our newspapers, and, isolated from the rest of civilization, we are beginning to have learned to appreciate these visitors. Christmas came and passed without any demonstrations to remind us of the coming year. We had no feast laid around which to pledge our friendship with a bumper, but all was quiet and peace. A number of reporters are here for the California papers, and further news.

Yours, truly,
R. KEMP.
To SYLVESTER MORSE, Esq.,
Washington, D. C.

ARIZONA, GILA CITY, Jan. 9, 1859.
DEAR SIR: We have received the President's message by an overland express, and in a short time we hope to receive some action by the President in relation to Arizona. We are arriving and departing daily—some going further up the Gila, others returning to California. The mines are gradually improving, although the \$1000 strikes are few. Two specimens were taken out last week weighing, respectively, \$27 a \$27 50; which shows that, with good mining facilities, the diggings will prove both extensive and rich. You are right, the country is a vast and fertile soil. The dirt from one to three miles, and then wash it in a common rocker, which is both slow and expensive. This accounts for the disheartened plums worn by the departing miners. Doctor Rogers has commenced constructing a water main that will supply the claims with water in the vicinity of Fort Yuma. A party intends putting an engine near here, so that the diggings will be generally supplied at a low price. The message has given confidence to the settlers here. Many who were preparing to return home have resolved to trust their fortunes here, and are looking anxiously for further news by every mail. It will have a happy effect upon those who were preparing for Sonora, and stop them from resorting to force to secure a settlement there. Should Sonora pass into our keeping, and the government monopolies be removed, it will open up a country the equal of California in minerals and agriculture. This will prove a fine field for emigration. Grangers on the Gila are believed by the majority of persons familiar with this country to be the proper terminus of the Pacific railroad. Thence communication is direct with the whole Pacific coast. The feasibility of this route is superior to any proposed.

The weather is cool and ice has become frequent, but with an ordinary supply of blankets we can camp upon the earth without shelter. We claim this to be the best climate known, and from the corpulence of the settlers it should be called the healthiest. A party is concentrating at the Pinos village to proceed to the White Mountains. It will consist of 200 men; less than this will not prove sufficiently strong for the Indians. The Gila is gradually rising, and in a few weeks it will be even with its banks. Business, &c., are quiet at the fort. No news from Tucson. The travel from Sonora is still great. More than one hundred thousand sheep have passed for California. The Mexicans are chury of the country, and should their flight continue, the country will prove an easy prey to our government.

Yours, truly,
R. KEMP.
Lieut. MOWRY.

TUCSON, (Arizona), Jan. 19, 1859.
MY DEAR SIR: Since I wrote you last the most important news is that the Indians are worse than ever. They have killed Capt. Ewell, near the fort, 25 miles up the Gila, from Mr. Joseph Yancy, near Tabac; 5 miles from a Mexican train on the road; all of Col. James Douglas's animals, (including his favorite riding mule), at Capt. Ewell's mine; 6 head of oxen and 2 horses from Capt. Sutton, near this place; and last they stole 4 head of oxen from Capt. Ewell, near the fort, 25 miles up the Gila. They arrived here by a Mexican train this morning, that they had burnt his fences and in all probability killed several persons living there, as we have not received any news from them.

We have had but one person killed since I wrote you last, but there is no knowing when more may share the same fate, and the news is no more cheering to us than to become of us. The Indians might be controlled if there was an agent appointed for that purpose.

We must have some one to govern and protect us, or we shall have to abandon this country, as news has been received here that the Indians intend to attack this place. What would become of our people should this take place?

Yours, most respectfully,
MOSES B. CARSON.
S. MORSE, Esq., Washington, D. C.

A NEW GOLD DISCOVERY.

The *St. Louis City Register* of the 27th ult. says Major Alexander Culbertson, a member of the American Fur Company, and one of the most noted and well-informed frontiersmen, arrived in St. Louis City on Wednesday last, direct from the headwaters of the Missouri river. The Major brought with him about \$1,300 in gold dust, which was taken out of the diggings on the "divide" between the Missouri and Columbia rivers. The headwaters of these two rivers, it will be recollected, are but a short distance apart; so near, indeed, are they together, that Maj. Culbertson has discovered a large stream of gold in the Missouri river, on the east side of the Rocky mountains, and in half an hour afterwards drank out of the Columbia river on the Pacific slope.

This is what is known as Gov. Stevens's Pass, and is said to be the most feasible route for a railroad to the Pacific. The gold in Major C's possession is what is generally called round or lump gold, and the average of the pieces is about the size of a grain of corn. It is not of a very fine quality, being worth about \$14 or \$15 per ounce; but what it lacks in quality is made up in quantity, as it is said to exist in that region in abundance. These mines can be approached within a comparatively short distance by steamboats, and we have no doubt will be visited by crowds of adventurers during the coming season.

Major Culbertson was accompanied by Mr. Galpin, of Fort Pierre, who informs us that the weather on the Missouri has been of the most delightful character during the present winter, and cannot be surpassed by any other country.

SILVER TRAIL.—In the trial of Mrs. Hartung, at Albany, who was found guilty on Monday of the murder of her husband, the principle of a party's credibility in his own case became curiously involved. The husband died of arsenic. Of this there was no doubt. The poison was administered by the wife, or by William Rhineman, her partner, or by both together. This, too, was beyond question. Near the close of the trial the woman made a statement, which was read to the court and jury by her counsel. It was not evidence; the law which permits parties to be witnesses in their own behalf in civil cases denies them that privilege in criminal trials, where life or liberty is at stake. The statement of Mrs. Hartung was, substantially, that she was induced to buy the arsenic by her lawyer, and an innocent purpose, as he informed her, and that she had no suspicion that her husband's death had been caused by poison till some time after the deed was committed.

SPEECH OF HON. S. A. SMITH.

From the *Memphis (Tennessee) Avalanche*, at Feb. 8.

Sam. Smith, as he is familiarly called, is one of the few men in Congress whose speeches are always read with interest, and to the point, and because we never rise from the journal of one of them without being better informed upon the matter in hand than when we sat down. With a clear head and an honest heart—an intellect capable of mastering everything he undertakes, and the industry always ready to say just what he thinks—Mr. Smith, we speak without throwing his light upon his subject, and affording instruction to those who may listen to, or read after him.

We have been led to these remarks from reading this gentleman's late speech in the House of Representatives on the subject of the government's expenditures. We think, and we do not mean it as an empty compliment, that it is by far the best speech we have yet seen upon this much-abused subject, and the only one, in fact, which, at one and the same time, accounts correctly for the great increase in the public expenditures, presents the true causes for the depressed condition of the revenue, and points out the proper mode for remedying evils so generally and so loudly complained of in the connection. In our judgment, Mr. Smith has "hit the nail on the head" at every point of his argument, and especially in his striking exposure of the charges of extravagance which a certain class of its members have been so anxiously and persistently endeavoring to fasten upon the administration. As it is our purpose to publish the whole of this excellent speech as soon as we can possibly do so, we content ourselves for the present with giving an extract.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

Prescott